



General Assembly

February Session, 2018

## ***Amendment***

LCO No. 5221



Offered by:

SEN. GERRATANA, 6<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. SOMERS, 18<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. STEINBERG, 136<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. BETTS, 78<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. LINARES, 33<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 304

File No. 345

Cal. No. 204

### ***"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MATERNITY MORTALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 19a-25 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2018*):

5 All information, records of interviews, written reports, statements,  
6 notes, memoranda or other data, including personal data as defined in  
7 subdivision (9) of section 4-190, procured by the Department of Public  
8 Health, [or] by staff committees of facilities accredited by the  
9 Department of Public Health or the maternity mortality review  
10 committee, established pursuant to section 3 of this act, in connection

11 with studies of morbidity and mortality conducted by the Department  
12 of Public Health, [or] such staff committees [,] or the maternal  
13 mortality review committee, or carried on by said department, [or]  
14 such staff committees or the maternal mortality review committee  
15 jointly with other persons, agencies or organizations, or procured by  
16 the directors of health of towns, cities or boroughs or the Department  
17 of Public Health pursuant to section 19a-215, or procured by such  
18 other persons, agencies or organizations, for the purpose of reducing  
19 the morbidity or mortality from any cause or condition, shall be  
20 confidential and shall be used solely for the purposes of medical or  
21 scientific research and, for information obtained pursuant to section  
22 19a-215, disease prevention and control by the local director of health  
23 and the Department of Public Health. Such information, records,  
24 reports, statements, notes, memoranda or other data shall not be  
25 admissible as evidence in any action of any kind in any court or before  
26 any other tribunal, board, agency or person, nor shall it be exhibited or  
27 its contents disclosed in any way, in whole or in part, by any officer or  
28 representative of the Department of Public Health or of any such  
29 facility, by any person participating in such a research project or by  
30 any other person, except as may be necessary for the purpose of  
31 furthering the research project to which it relates. Notwithstanding the  
32 provisions of chapter 55, the Department of Public Health may  
33 exchange personal data for the purpose of medical or scientific  
34 research, with any other governmental agency or private research  
35 organization; provided such state, governmental agency or private  
36 research organization shall not further disclose such personal data. The  
37 Commissioner of Public Health shall adopt regulations consistent with  
38 the purposes of this section to establish the procedures to ensure the  
39 confidentiality of such disclosures. The furnishing of such information  
40 to the Department of Public Health or its authorized representative, or  
41 to any other agency cooperating in such a research project, shall not  
42 subject any person, hospital, sanitarium, rest home, nursing home or  
43 other person or agency furnishing such information to any action for  
44 damages or other relief because of such disclosure. This section shall  
45 not be deemed to affect disclosure of regular hospital and medical

46 records made in the course of the regular notation of the care and  
47 treatment of any patient, but only records or notations by such staff  
48 committees pursuant to their work.

49 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) As used in this section  
50 and section 3 of this act, "maternal death" means the death of a woman  
51 while pregnant or not later than one year after the date on which the  
52 woman ceases to be pregnant, regardless of whether the woman's  
53 death is related to her pregnancy, and "department" means the  
54 Department of Public Health.

55 (b) There is established, within the department, a maternal mortality  
56 review program. The program shall be responsible for identifying  
57 maternal death cases in Connecticut and reviewing medical records  
58 and other relevant data related to each maternal death case, including,  
59 but not limited to, information collected from death and birth records,  
60 files from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, and physician  
61 office and hospital records.

62 (c) Licensed health care providers, health care facilities and  
63 pharmacies shall provide the maternal mortality review program,  
64 established under this section with reasonable access to all relevant  
65 medical records associated with a maternal death case under review by  
66 the program.

67 (d) All information obtained by the department for the maternal  
68 mortality review program shall be confidential pursuant to section  
69 19a-25 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

70 (e) Notwithstanding subsection (d) of this section, the department  
71 may provide the maternal mortality review committee, established  
72 pursuant to section 3 of this act, with information as is necessary, in  
73 the department's discretion, for the committee to make  
74 recommendations regarding the prevention of maternal death.

75 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) There is established a  
76 maternal mortality review committee within the department to

77 conduct a comprehensive, multidisciplinary review of maternal deaths  
78 for purposes of identifying factors associated with maternal death and  
79 making recommendations to reduce maternal deaths.

80 (b) The cochairpersons of the maternal mortality review committee  
81 shall be the Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's  
82 designee, and a representative designated by the Connecticut State  
83 Medical Society. The cochairpersons shall convene a meeting of the  
84 maternal mortality review committee upon the request of the  
85 Commissioner of Public Health.

86 (c) The maternal mortality review committee may include, but not  
87 be limited to, any of the following members, as needed, depending on  
88 the maternal death case being reviewed:

89 (1) A physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general  
90 statutes who specializes in obstetrics and gynecology, appointed by  
91 the Connecticut State Medical Society;

92 (2) A physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general  
93 statutes who is a pediatrician, appointed by the Connecticut State  
94 Medical Society;

95 (3) A community health worker, appointed by the Commission on  
96 Equity and Opportunity;

97 (4) A nurse-midwife licensed pursuant to chapter 377 of the general  
98 statutes, appointed by the Connecticut Nurses Association;

99 (5) A clinical social worker licensed pursuant to chapter 383b,  
100 appointed by the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of  
101 Social Workers;

102 (6) A psychiatrist licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general  
103 statutes, appointed by the Connecticut Psychiatric Society;

104 (7) A psychologist licensed pursuant to chapter 20-136 of the general  
105 statutes, appointed by the Connecticut Psychological Association;

106 (8) The Chief Medical Examiner, or the Chief Medical Examiner's  
107 designee;

108 (9) A member of the Connecticut Hospital Association;

109 (10) A representative of a community or regional program or facility  
110 providing services for persons with psychiatric disabilities or persons  
111 with substance use disorders, appointed by the Commissioner of  
112 Public Health;

113 (11) A representative of The University of Connecticut-sponsored  
114 health disparities institute; or

115 (12) Any additional member the cochairpersons determine would be  
116 beneficial to serve as a member of the committee.

117 (d) Whenever a meeting of the maternal mortality review committee  
118 takes place, the committee shall consult with relevant experts to  
119 evaluate the information and findings obtained from the department  
120 pursuant to section 2 of this act and make recommendations regarding  
121 the prevention of maternal deaths. Not later than ninety days after  
122 such meeting, the committee shall report, to the Commissioner of  
123 Public Health, any recommendations and findings of the committee in  
124 a manner that complies with section 19a-25 of the general statutes, as  
125 amended by this act.

126 (e) All information provided by the department to the maternal  
127 mortality review committee shall be subject to the provisions of section  
128 19a-25 of the general statutes, as amended by this act."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2018	19a-25
Sec. 2	October 1, 2018	New section
Sec. 3	October 1, 2018	New section